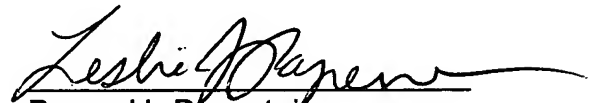


REMARKS

By the above amendment, claims 8 – 23, 26 – 31, 33, 34, and 36 – 56 have been amended to delete multiple claim dependency, and no estoppel should be deemed to be associated with this amendment.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chikara MURAKATA et al.



Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

**Leslie J. Paperner**  
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April 7, 2006  
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